

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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AUG 10 2004

In re application of:           § Group Art Unit: 3623  
Rodriguez, et. al.           §  
                                     §  
Serial No.: 09/704,569       § Examiner: Robinson Boyce, Akiba K  
                                     §  
Filed: November 3, 2000      § Attorney Docket No. AUS920000488US1  
                                     §  
Title: System and Method     § IBM Corporation, IP Law Department  
      for Automating Travel   § 11400 Burnet Road  
      Agent Operations        § Internal Zip 4054  
                                     § Austin, TX 78758

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By:

  
Joseph T. Van Leeuwen8/10/04  
DateRESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**A. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Final Office Action having a mailing date of June 11 2004, with a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 11, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following remarks and amendments.

No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is

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requested, and the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.